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Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, HF-1
Rockville, MD 20857

27 November, 1999

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I strongly urge you to require labeling for genetically engineered foods.

Although agricultural industries have invested a lot of money in developing these foods, there still is too little known about the long term effects of these foodstuffs in both our bodies and in the environment. I believe that the health of American people and of our land should come before the profits of huge corporations that are already reaping sufficient advantage.

I have been reading quite a lot to learn more about this topic and was frightened to learn about how some people's bodies could be allergically sensitive to genetic changes in food. And this past summer's tragedy with Bt corn and the monarch butterflies attests to the fact that environmental consequences of GE foods are still not sufficiently well known despite industry and government promises of safety. Finally, many other countries of the developed world have already required labeling of genetically engineered foods or have taken other steps to prohibit their importation.

Although labeling does little to address environmental concerns, I strongly believe that people should have the right to know what they are eating. This may be one of the most critical health and justice issues of our time! Please take care to listen to what most Americans want. I know that the political pressures to do otherwise will be strong because there is a lot of money involved, but please listen to the people and be brave. If our government does not protect our rights, no one will.

I thank you for considering my perspective.

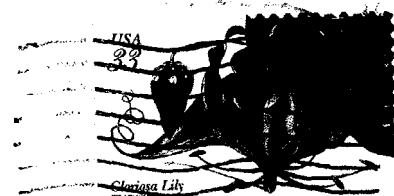
Cordially,

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